



S&H Form: (2/01)
Attorney Docket No. 1076.1063

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:

Yuuichi TACHINO, et al.

Application No.: 09/775,653

Group Art Unit: 1763

Confirmation No.: 9294

Filed: February 5, 2001

Examiner: Michelle Crowell

For: A PLASMA ETCHING METHOD AND APPARATUS

RESPONSE TO ELECTION OF SPECIES REQUIREMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed August 8, 2002, having a shortened period for response set to expire on September 8, 2002, applicants elect Invention II and present claims 2-20, and elect Species I (Fig. 1) with present claims 1-3, 7, 10-11, 13-14 and 17-18 readable on Species I. Applicants also consider independent claims 1, 2, 11 and 13 to be generic with respect to the species election. Applicants reserve the right to further prosecute without prejudice all non-elected inventions/species and related claims.

If there are any additional fees associated with this Response, please charge same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

STAAS & HALSEY LLP

Date:

September 9, 2002

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